



CITY of NORFOLK

Office of the Mayor

Paul D. Fraim
Mayor

February 14, 2013

Gregory A. Whirley
Transportation Commissioner
Virginia Department of Transportation
1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Commissioner Whirley:

On behalf of the Norfolk City Council I am writing to express our outrage with the maintenance effort that VDOT is providing for the primary routes in the City of Norfolk and the greater Hampton Roads area. The City Council has received numerous calls and inquiries regarding the state of disrepair that both I-64 and I-264 have been in for many months. Our citizens are frustrated and as a result of the deteriorating condition of these two roads, many have had to make costly repairs to their automobiles as a result of damage from potholes and debris. This is a completely unacceptable situation that requires your immediate attention.

As you know, I-64 and I-264 serve as gateways to the City of Norfolk. Both corridors are vitally important to the Commonwealth's economy as they serve national defense installations, the Virginia Ports, primary tourist destinations, as well as medical and education facilities in Norfolk and in our neighboring Southside communities. The idea that this is the best possible level of maintenance that VDOT can provide is very concerning. VDOT must retool to execute this important mission or identify the roadblocks to providing higher quality services. If, for example, this is a resource allocation issue, then the citizens of Hampton Roads deserve an explanation. For many years our Council has acknowledged the need to enhance transportation resources for both maintenance and new construction. We are prepared to work with VDOT to communicate this need to our General Assembly delegation.

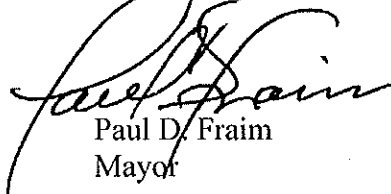
In short, it is our belief that the crumbling of portions of I-264 on Friday, February 8, 2013 was certainly foreseeable and, therefore, preventable. The fault of VDOT to prevent this deterioration of one of the busiest roadways in the region and the Commonwealth of Virginia was the apparent result of a failure of management. We fully expect that those persons responsible for this situation will be held accountable.

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Further, we expect VDOT to respond to our request for an explanation of the current maintenance situation in Hampton Roads. Likewise, we need to know the plan under way to remedy this hazardous roadway problem.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul D. Fraim", is written over the printed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being the most prominent part of the script.

Paul D. Fraim
Mayor

cc: Norfolk City Council
Commonwealth Transportation Board
Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Organization